

CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT

[No. 45 of 1880.

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 6th November 1880.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhárat Shramajíví" ...	Calcutta	2,100	
2	"Grámvártá Prakáshiká" ...	Comercolly	175	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Sansodhíní" ...	Chittagong	600	22nd October 1880.
4	"Purva Pratidhwani" ...	Ditto	.....	30th ditto.
5	"Rajshahye Samvád" ...	Rajshahye	31	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká" ...	Calcutta	700	11th ditto.
7	"Arya Darpan" ...	Ditto	.....
8	"Bhárat Mihir" ...	Mymensingh	671	
9	"Bengal Advertiser" ...	Calcutta	2,000	
10	"Bardwán Sanjívaní" ...	Bardwán	296	2nd November 1880.
11	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	350	31st October 1880.
12	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	745	5th November 1880.
13	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rájsháhí	200	
14	"Medini" ...	Midnapore	250	3rd ditto.
15	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	487	
16	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	.....
17	"Navavibhákar" ...	Calcutta	850	1st ditto.
18	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	275	
19	"Rangpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kákiniá, Rangpore	250	
20	"Sádháraní" ...	Chinsurah	500	31st October 1880.
21	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	1st November 1880.
22	"Som Prakásh" ...	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	.....
23	"Sulabha Samáchár" ...	Calcutta	4,000	30th October 1880.
24	"Sríhatta Prakásh" ...	Sylhet	440	
25	"Tripurá Vártávaha" ...	Commillah	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
26	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Calcutta	700	29th October to 4th November 1880.
27	"Samvád Púrnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	300	1st to 6th November 1880.
28	"Samáchár Chandriká" ...	Ditto	625	1st November 1880.
29	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto	500	29th October to 4th November 1880.
30	"Prabháti" ...	Ditto	.....	25th October and 1st, 4th, and 5th November 1880.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
31	"Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto	365	30th October 1880.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
32	"Behár Bandhu" ...	Bankipore, Patna	500	28th ditto.
33	"Bhárat Mitra" ...	Calcutta	500	
34	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ...	Ditto	200	1st November 1880.
35	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto	.....	30th October 1880.
 PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
36	"Jám-Jahán-numá" ...	Ditto	250	29th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
37	"Tijarut-ul-Akhbár" ...	Ditto	.....	29th ditto.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
38	"Assam Vilásiní" ...	.....	.....	Bhádra, 1287 B.S.

POLITICAL.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
October 11th, 1880.

The Chota Oodeypore case.

The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 11th October, thus refers to the Chota Oodeypore case:—Another important case, like that of the ex-Guicowar of Baroda, has occurred in the Bombay Presidency. The origin of the Baroda case was Colonel Phayre; that of the present case Mr. Grant, who also like Colonel Phayre is a Political Agent. [Here follows an account of the case.] The people of India, as a whole, agree with Mr. Branson, who is counsel for the defence, in holding that the trial of Chunder Singh ought to have taken place before the Chief of Chota Oodeypore, and that the British Government has no jurisdiction in the matter. Whether or not Chunder Singh is really guilty, we cannot say; but even if it be a fact that he really beat his unfaithful wife severely, we do not see what fault he has committed. He has done only what every Hindu would have done under the circumstances. The chastity of English women indeed can be violated by an expenditure of money; that of a Hindu female is a different article altogether.

BEHAR BANDHU,
October 28th, 1880.

2. The *Behar Bandhu*, of the 28th October, in noticing this case, remarks that it has some resemblance to that of the ex-Guicowar of Baroda. The Editor, however, does not express any opinion on its merits.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
October 30th, 1880.

3. The present Ministry, says the *Sulabha Samáchár*, of the 30th October, have, in some of their recent actions, shown clearly of what stuff they are

made. In spite of clear stipulations to the contrary, the desire of annexing Candahar is entertained by not a few persons; and there has not been a lack of pretexts and excuses for urging the adoption of this measure. In Europe, pressure is being put upon the Porte for the surrender of Dulcigno, and the intervention of the Ministry, instead of being exercised on behalf of both Turkey and her Christian subjects, is directed solely in the interests of the latter. At the Cape, the Basutos, an inoffensive savage tribe, have been needlessly disarmed, thus giving rise to fresh troubles. Not one measure yet adopted by the Ministry has benefited India; the natives are greatly disappointed. The complaints made by the newspapers too are quite unavailing, except for the purpose of disabusing the people of their wrong notions. The Liberals should not any longer talk of conferring benefits upon this country; for this would be only countenancing falsehood and insincerity. The people of India also should cease to expect any good at their hands. All that is now found to be an illusion. The present policy is clearly one which is meant to deceive men, and is utterly divorced from morality.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
November 1st, 1880.

The abolition of the salt line, and the
Native Princes of India.

4. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 1st November, contains an article headed the "Unfair treatment extended to the Native Princes by the Government of India." The writer gives a summary of the facts and

arguments used in an article on the abolition of the salt line in the October number of the *London Statesman*. The equalization of the salt duties, a most necessary reform, has been accomplished at the expense of the Native Princes and the subjects of their territories. This has caused extreme heart-burning among them. Sir John Strachey, however, did not let Parliament know the true state of matters; and it was given out that the Native Princes had willingly co-operated with the Supreme Government in bringing about this reform. The Editor concludes by appealing to the British nation for justice and sympathy.

SAHACHAR,
November 1st, 1880.

Candahar.

5. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st November, urges on Government the necessity of promptly withdrawing its army from Candahar. Such a measure would meet the requirements of both self-interest and justice.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

6. The *Sulabha Samáchár*, of the 30th October, refers to the fearful increase of intemperance among the Sonthals, caused by the introduction of the outstall system, which has resulted in the supersession of their

Drunkenness among the San-thals.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
October 30th, 1880.

home-brewed liquor by the more intoxicating and deleterious drink supplied at the Government distilleries. The policy pursued by Government in this matter is almost on a par with that which enjoins the gift of a pair of shoes to expiate the sin caused by the slaughter of a cow. The reasoning employed by the authorities is really wonderful. Stress is always laid on the fact that it is quite optional with the people to use, or not to use, the liquor manufactured at the distilleries. But it may be asked for what purpose is this large quantity prepared every day, if not for the consumption of the people? It cannot all be meant for medicinal purposes, or for preserving in houses as an ornament. It is well known that, if the article is placed before the public, they will certainly be tempted to indulge in its use. Government carries on this traffic in liquor with the full knowledge that, while it yields revenue, it also ruins the people; and it is almost certain that the adoption of any measure for restricting the sale of liquor is farthest from the minds of the rulers. If they are sincere, they cannot do anything better than stop the sale of the article on Sundays, and withhold permission to open new shops. Even a rule to the effect that permission to open a new shop should not be given, unless the respectable inhabitants of a village asked for it, might prove greatly advantageous.

7. The *Purva Pratidhwani*, of the 30th October, contains a long article on the police of Chittagong, the substance of which is that the two local Police Inspectors

The Police Inspectors of Chittagong.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI
October 30th, 1880.

being inhabitants of the district, and having many friends and acquaintances, as well as enemies, in these parts, whom it is possible for them respectively to befriend and harass, it behoves Government to consider the expediency of transferring the officers elsewhere.

8. The *Sádháraní*, of the 31st October, contains three articles on Indian famines.

famines in India. In the first is given a brief account of the famines which occurred during the first hundred years of British rule in India, and the different views of the authorities for the time being on the subject of famine relief. The second article has reference to the famines of the last eight years. The humane policy followed by Lord Northbrook's Government during the Behar famine of 1873-74 is noticed with commendation; while the policy which subsequently came into favour, the policy that is identified with the administration of Lord Lytton, Sir Richard Temple, and Sir John Strachey, and was followed by Sir George Couper in the North-Western Provinces, is condemned. In the third article the writer proceeds to notice the labours of the Famine Commission, which have been directed more for the purpose of vindicating the action of Lord Lytton's Government in the matter of the Madras famine than for arriving at a proper solution of the question as to the cause of famines. The Editor's own view is summarised in the following words:—The chief defect of the British administration is precisely that which constitutes the chief cause of famines in India. It is nothing else but the constant drain upon the resources of the country which has gone on under British rule and affixed itself as a reproach upon it. In an extensive country like India, where not a few provinces depend for their cultivation on the supply of river water, it is not of course possible that there should be good rainfall every year. A year of

SÁDHÁRANI,
October 31st, 1880.

drought every four or five years may be reckoned upon as a certainty. If the people could lay up stores of grain for this bad year, their would be but little fear of distress. But so great is the drain maintained under the British administration that, not to speak of the storing of a year's food, so far as the masses are concerned, even the well-to-do middle classes can hardly boast of having in their houses a supply of food sufficient for six months. The day laborers, who live from hand to mouth, do not find any employment in a period of scarcity, and are the first to succumb under the effects of famine, while others share the same fate, though after some struggle. Now, if India is not to be made a permanent abode of famine, this perennial drain should be checked; otherwise Famine Commissions will, owing to their costliness, but add to the poverty of India.

SADHARANI,
October 31st, 1880.

9. In noticing the Government Resolution on the last Administration Report of the Police Department, the

The Police Report for 1879.

same paper advertises to the remarks of the

Lieutenant-Governor on that portion of the report which dwells upon the working of the Chowkeedaree Act and the village punchayets. The Editor fully concurs in the observations made by His Honor as to the desirability of increasing the powers of this body, and thus accounts for the unwillingness of really respectable men in villages to be nominated to the punchayet:—We have, on more than one occasion, sought to account for this unwillingness. If the powers conferred by the Act on the village police, as regards its relations to the punchayet, were restricted, it is likely there might be a greater desire evinced by men of position among the villagers to serve on that body. Native gentlemen, as a rule, do not wish to have much concern with the police. If a police officer were vested with any powers which he might exercise over these men, he would give himself airs as though he was the grandfather of a Viceroy. The police always deal with thieves and robbers; and the treatment extended to them is that which it shows even when dealing with honest men. Thus it has come to pass that honest men shun even the shadow of a police officer. The police possess large powers over the punchayet, and a place in the punchayet is not therefore coveted. When head constable Fakir Sing, reddening his eyes and leaning on his baton and twirling his moustaches, has it in his power to order "Punchayet Baboo ko boláyo," who among respectable men will have anything to do with a punchayet?

DACCA PRAKASH,
October 31st, 1880.

The city police of Dacca.

10. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 31st October, refers to the large number of uneducated and inefficient men to be found in the city police force of Dacca. Robberies within a few yards of the police-station are of frequent occurrence, and yet the offenders are not detected. What wonder that an impression should be entertained that there is collusion on the part of the police? The Inspector-General of Police is asked to remove these inefficient men from the service.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
November 1st, 1880.

Legislation proposed for the administration of Hindu religious endowments.

11. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 1st November, points out the extreme desirability of initiating legislation for the purpose of securing a proper administration of Hindu religious endowments which are at present grossly mismanaged. The funds are often extravagantly expended or misappropriated by the priests, and the object of the donors is thus frustrated. The writer promises to return to the subject in a future issue of the journal.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

12. The same paper advocates the need on the part of Government of storing up of grain against a famine. This good old practice has now fallen into disuse among the people, and hence their distress in a period of scarcity. If

Storing up grain against famine.

Government would but buy grain when the price is low, and sell it when the demand for it is large, much good would accrue to the people of the country.

13. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Maldah, notices
Tigers in Maldah.

the increasing ravages committed by tigers in that town. Cultivators, cowherds, and woodcutters are constantly exposed to their attacks, and loss of life is of frequent occurrence. The writer beseeches Government to exempt Maldah from the operation of the Arms Act, and direct the clearance of jungle and the destruction of tigers in that district.

14. The *Sahachar*, of the 1st November, suggests the desirability of placing all the dispensaries in this country under official supervision, and of insisting that the compounders employed therein should be duly qualified men.

15. The *Prabháti*, of the 1st November, writes a long article in which
Mass education.

Government is asked to attend to the subject of mass education, which alone can raise the people of this country in the scale of nations. While recognizing the importance of this subject, the Editor does not approve of the policy which finds favour, in many quarters, of promoting mass education at the expense of high education.

MISCELLANEOUS.

16. The *Assam Vilásini*, for the month of Bhádra, thus writes in reference to the cattle murrain in Upper Assam :—The chief means by which the growth of paddy, &c., is effected in Assam, are the country bullocks and buffaloes. These cattle do as much for the people of Assam as the people themselves do for their own country. Such being the case, alas! what heart will not feel to hear of such useful creatures dying by hundreds, and that too at the time of harvest, when everything else indicates prospects of a good harvest. The cattle murrain has broken out so virulently, that nothing but carcasses of bullocks, &c., are to be seen in the river. This wholesale decease of cattle has affected the whole of Assam so seriously that the people are in a difficulty, not knowing how to support themselves and to pay the taxes, which the coming into force of Act V (a) has increased in various ways. Under these circumstances, the Editor solicits the Government to be gracious enough to look, not only to their own interest, but to those of the people as well over whom they are destined to rule.

NAVÁI HÁKAR,
November 1st, 1880.

SAHACHAR,
November 1st, 1880.

PRABHÁTI,
November 1st, 1880.

ASSAM VILASINI,

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 6th November 1880.

